



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to <http://www.srh.noaa.gov> and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, March 22, 2017
Issued: 0800 CT

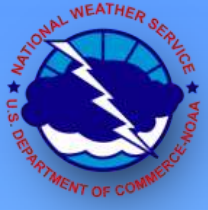
Day 1 Weather Impacts: Elevated to critical fire weather threat across NM and Far W TX.

National Weather Service

*Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX*



**Prepared by: Jen McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147**



Key Points

Today

- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions over much of NM and far W TX this afternoon

Thursday

- Extreme fire weather conditions possible on Thursday over E NM (gusty winds and very low humidities)
 - Critical fire weather conditions expected across E & S NM, the Panhandles, E OK and W TX
- Slight risk of severe storms from the Panhandles through the TX South Plains in the evening; large hail and damaging winds are the main threats

Friday

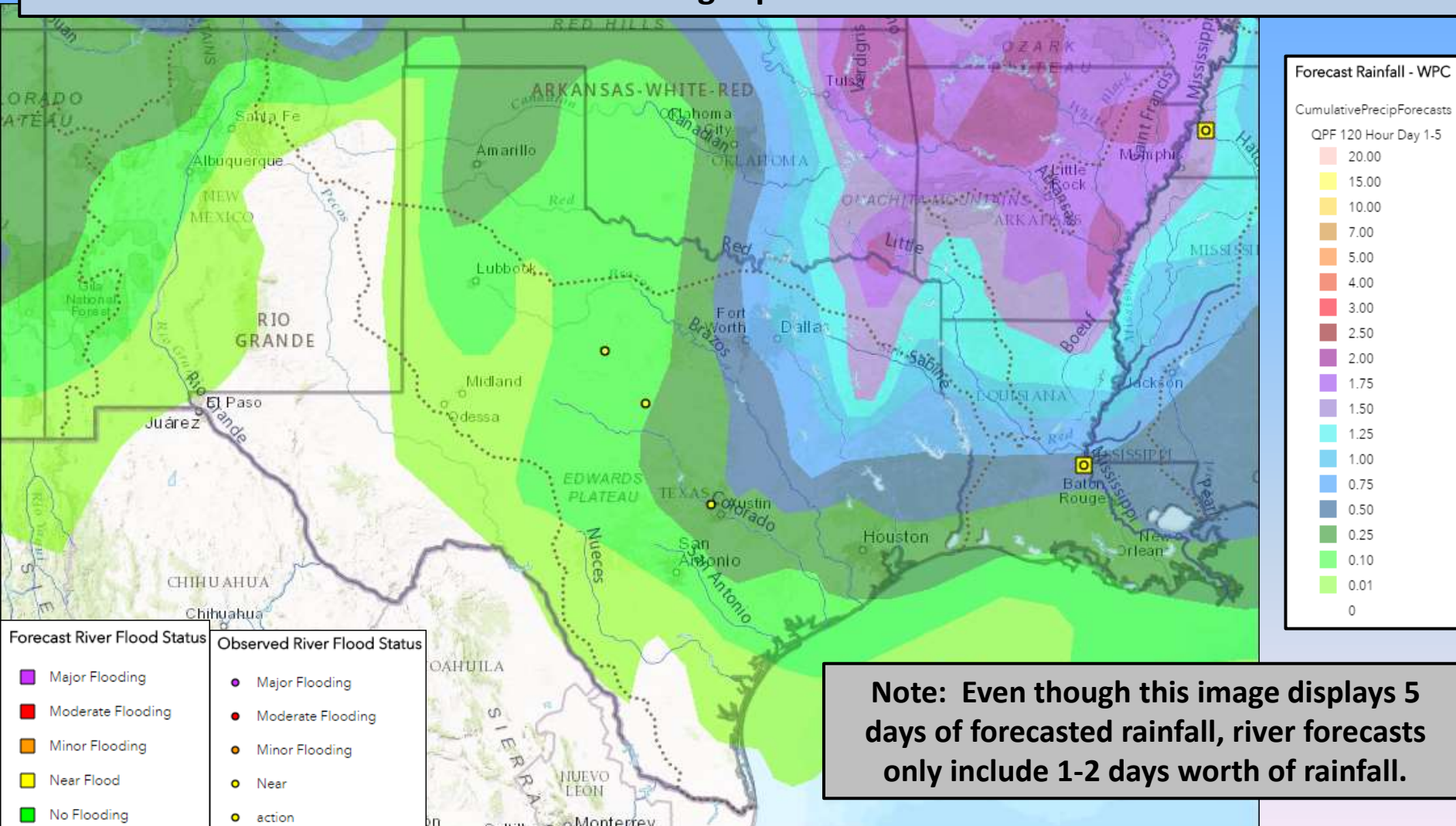
- Slight risk of severe storms across the eastern third of the Region during the day and into the late night hours
 - Damaging winds, large hail and tornadoes possible

This Weekend

- Storms should be moving out of SE LA on Saturday
- Additional storms possible Sunday evening over OK and N-Central TX, some may be strong to severe

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Rainfall over NE portions of the Region will be Friday/Saturday. Some isolated minor flooding is possible.



For the latest on river flooding: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps>

*FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 22, 2017 - Mar 26, 2017

	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Weather		Panhandles, NW TX	E OK, NE/E TX, AR, LA	SE LA	OK, N-Central TX
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding			E OK, NE/E TX, AR, LA		
Winter Weather					
Fire Weather	NM, Far W TX	E NM E & S NM, W TX, W OK, Panhandles	SE NM, W & NW TX		
River Flooding					

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

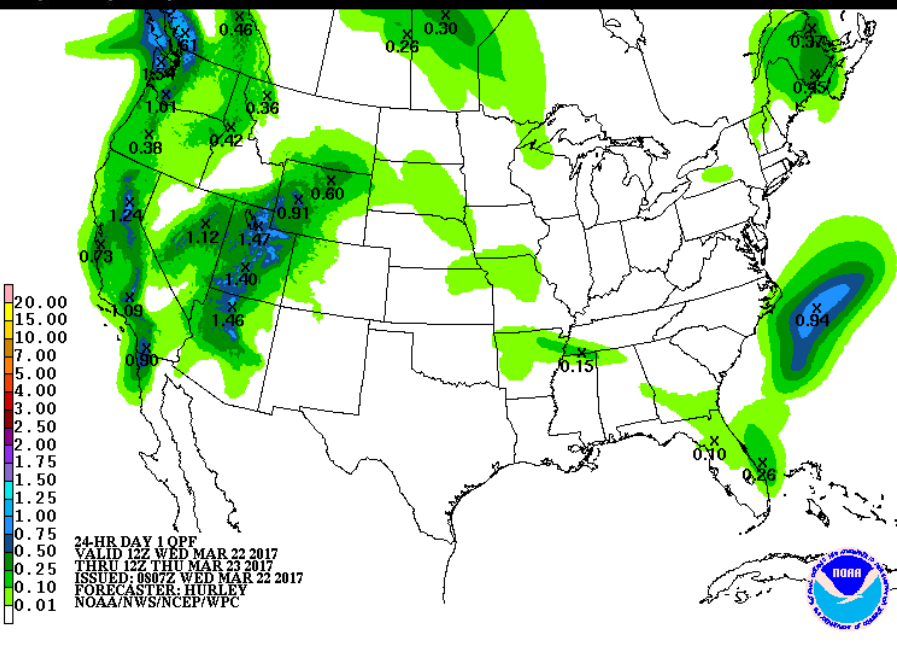
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.



Today's Weather



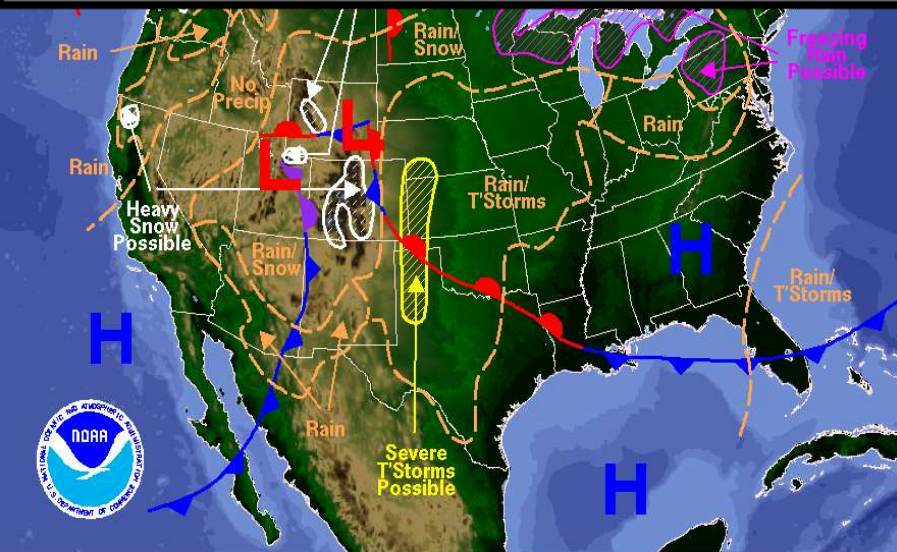
Weather Forecast for Wed, Mar 22, 2017, issued 4:46 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



Elevated to critical fire weather conditions over NM and far W TX.



Tomorrow's Weather

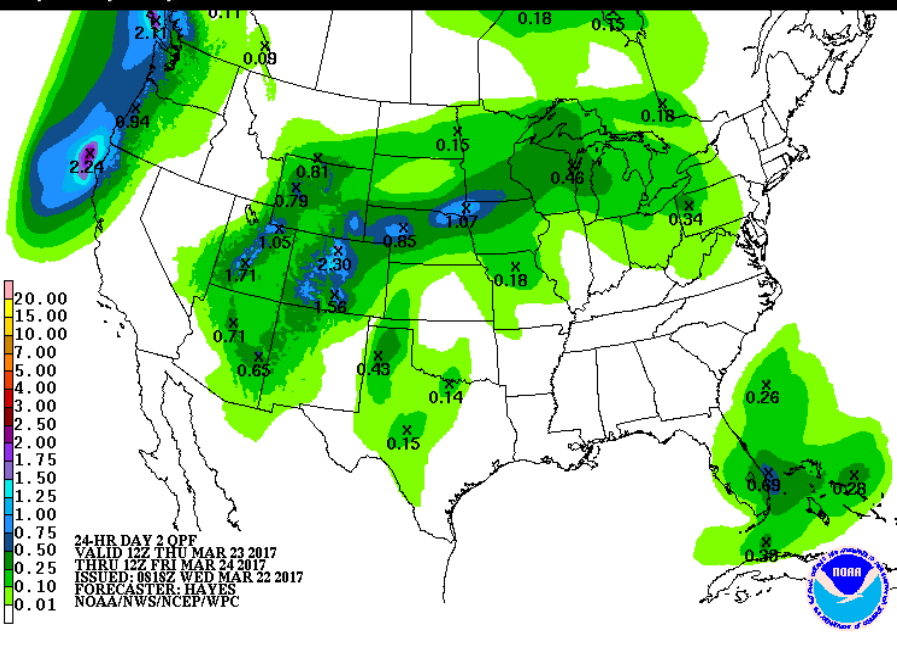


Weather Forecast for Thu, Mar 23, 2017, issued 5:01 AM EDT Wed, Mar 22, 2017
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

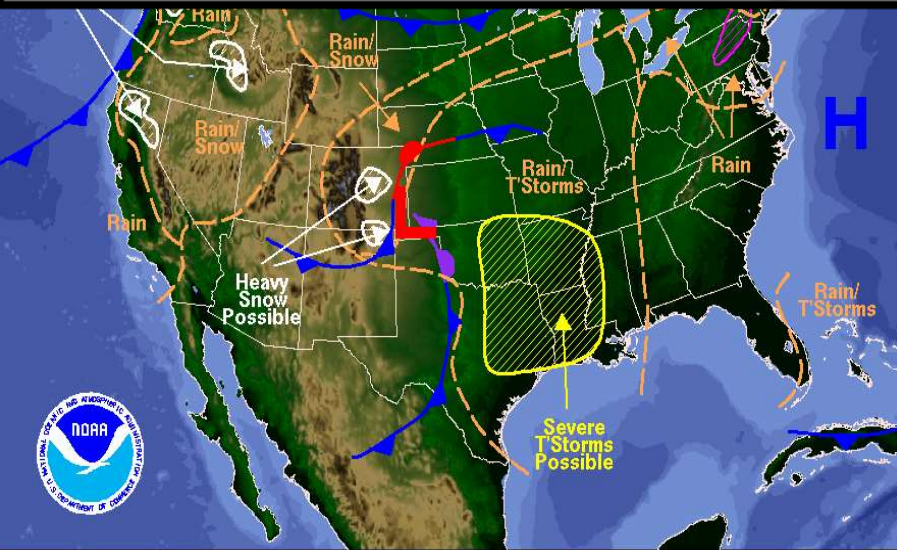
Extreme fire weather conditions possible over E NM (gusty winds and very low humidities).

Critical fire weather conditions over E & S NM, TX/OK Panhandles, W TX and W OK.

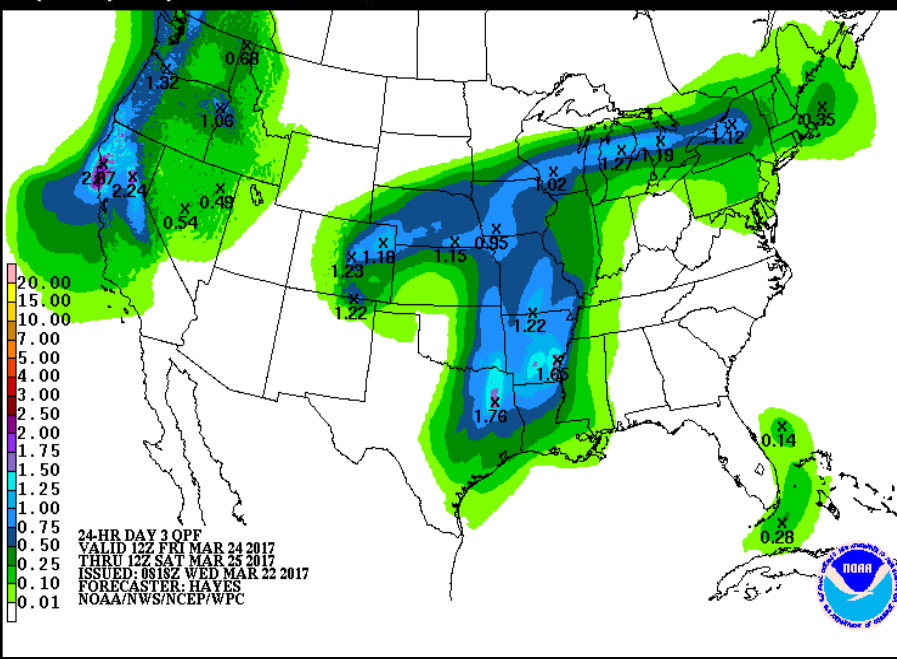
Slight risk of severe storms from the Panhandles through TX South Plains Friday evening; damaging winds and hail are the main threats.



Friday's Weather



Weather Forecast for Fri, Mar 24, 2017, issued 5:05 AM EDT Wed, Mar 22, 2017
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



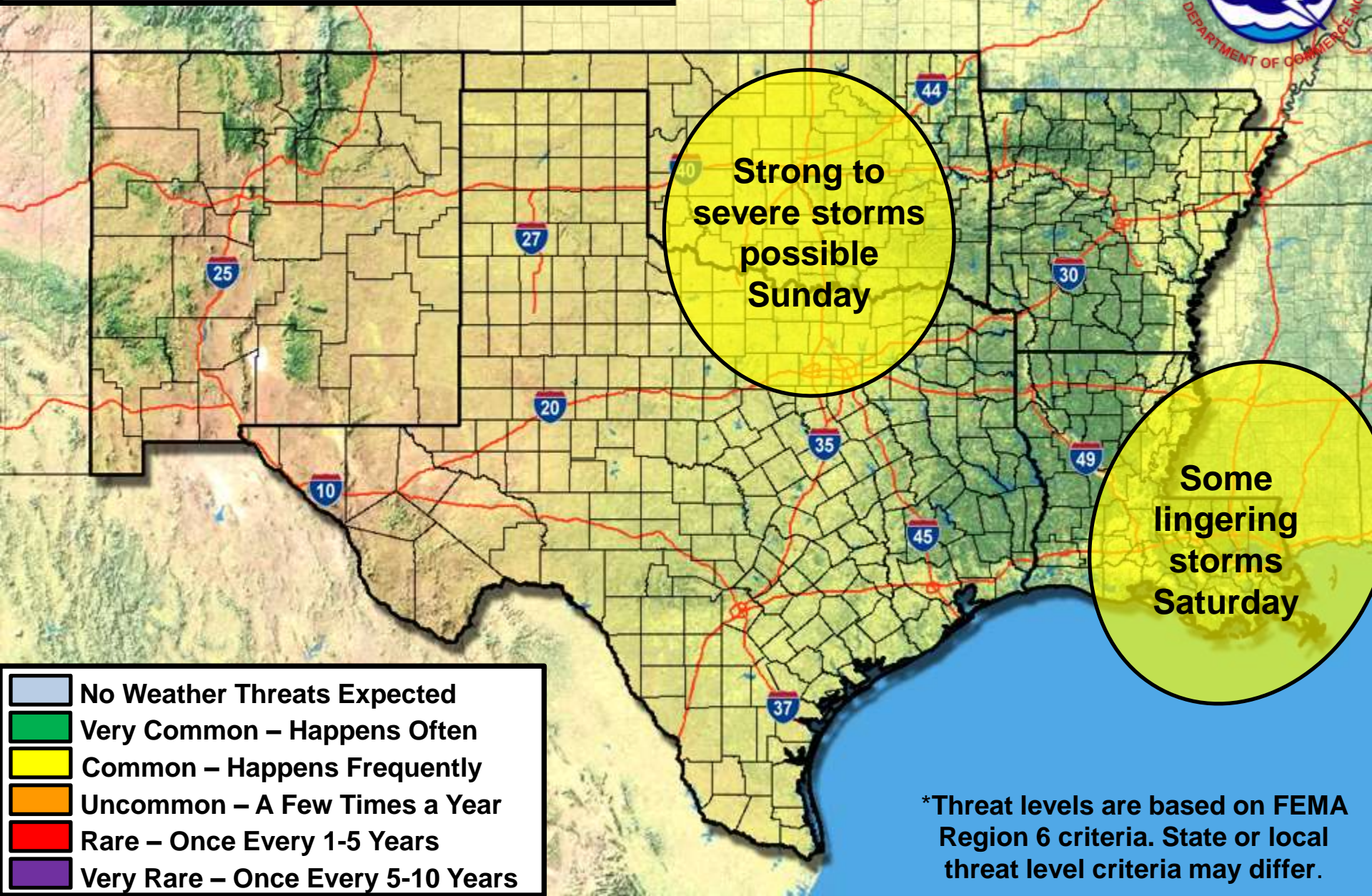
Slight risk of severe storms over eastern third of the Region during the day and into the late night hours; damaging winds, large hail and tornadoes possible.

Critical fire weather threat continues over SE NM, W & NW TX.









Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Valid: 0800 Sat - 0800 Mon



**Strong to
severe storms
possible
Sunday**

**Some
lingering
storms
Saturday**

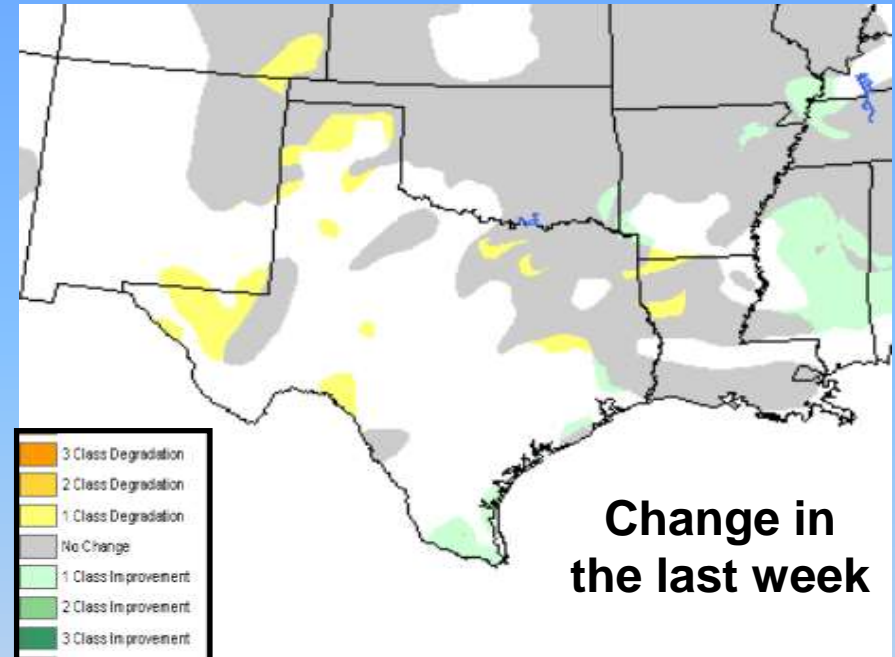
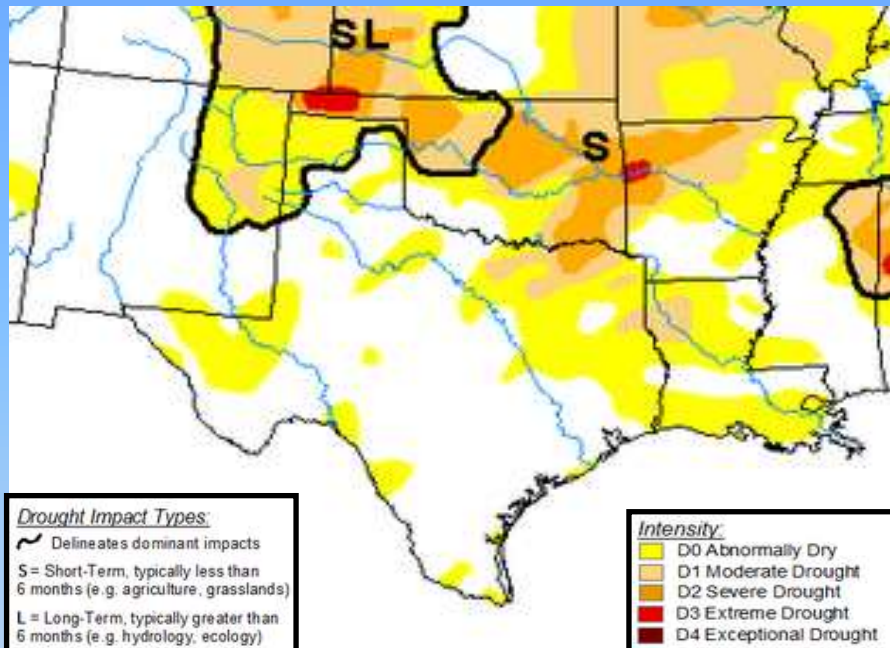
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released March 16, 2017

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 14, 2017



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Oklahoma	3.17%	3.17%	3.14%	0.00%
Arkansas	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Texas	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%	0.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
New Mexico	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

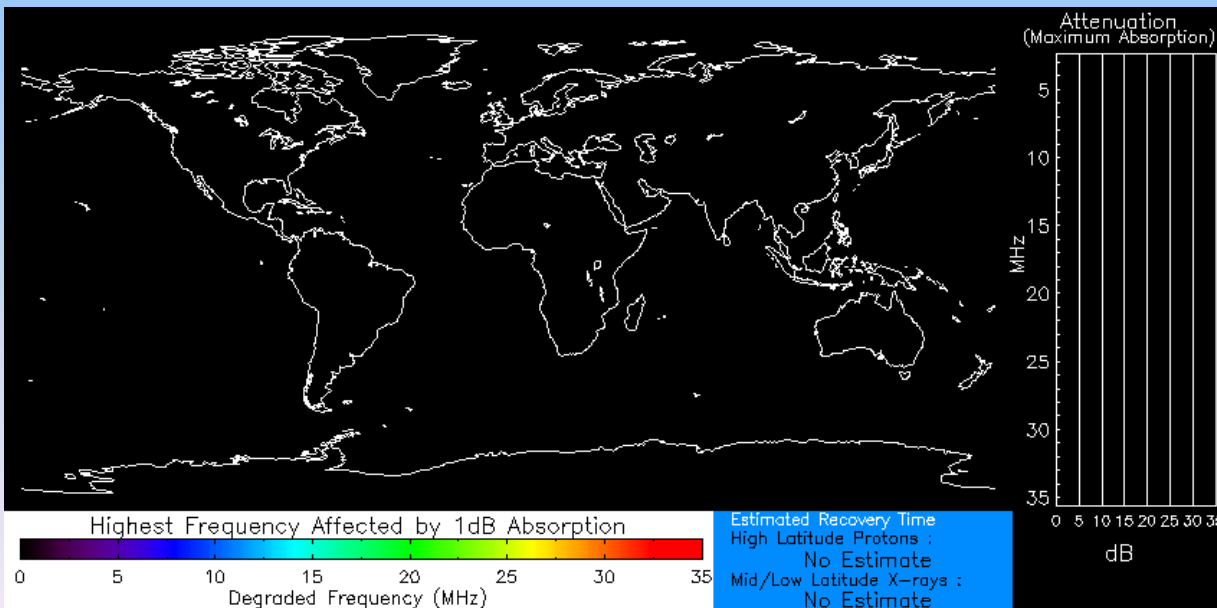
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Minor (G1) Storm (Max Kp = 4=5)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal X-ray Background
Product Valid At : 2017-03-22 09:57 UTC

Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

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<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

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@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms